

Society for Endocrinology Grants

Guidance for Applicants *(to be read by all applicants before application)*

Updated 20 March 2024

General Guidance

As part of the Society for Endocrinology's 2023 strategic review, we have adapted our grants portfolio to ensure that we are effectively meeting the funding needs of our members post-pandemic, supporting members at all career stages, and operating a transparent application and award process. Our new grants portfolio has 5 grant types:

1. **Research:** to support members' research and audit activities.
2. **Meeting:** to support members to organise meetings and events.
3. **Travel:** to support members' travel to conferences and meetings
4. **Teaching:** to support teaching in endocrinology at all stages, supporting initiatives for both students and teachers
5. **Outreach:** funding for members and patient support groups for outreach activities aimed at patients or the public.

In addition to these 5 core grants, the Society will be administering grants on behalf of the Clinical Endocrinology Journal Foundation (CEJF) and specific details are provided at the end of this guidance document.

A new dedicated Grants Panel will mark applications and award grants based on merit, within the financial parameters set by the Society's Council of Trustees, and with transparent processes underpinned by best practice in the field (guided by the [Association of Medical Research Charities](#) and robust principles of equality, diversity and inclusion, informed by [the Society's recent governance review](#)).

Except in exceptional circumstances, the Society would prefer to enable the maximum number of members to benefit from small/pump priming grant support and so applicants are asked to be realistic and modest with requests and explicit about the value and pathway to impact.

The Society actively encourages applications for proposals with matched-funding support, whether that is from an institution, another Society or industry (evidence will be requested before awards are made).

For core Society grants there will be 3 deadlines a year and applications for all 5 grants types will be accepted at each deadline. The CEJF Research Grant will have one deadline each year. Grants will not be awarded retrospectively. Applicants will be informed of results approximately 7 weeks after the application deadline.

Barriers to application have been removed and ALL members will be eligible to apply for ALL grants; Single and multiple co-applicant applications are welcome from members. However, the only caveat is that Student Members should not be the primary applicant, but are welcome to be a named co-applicant,

which will benefit their CV and career development. Primary Applicants should have been a Society member for at least one year prior to the grant deadline or for 6 months for an Early Career member.

[Society for Endocrinology affiliated Patient Support Groups](#) are welcome to apply for the Outreach grant, either alone, jointly with another affiliated Patient Support Group or in collaboration with Society members.

All grants are highly competitive and so applicants are encouraged to read the guidance carefully in advance, to be specific and detailed when answering questions on the application form and to seek advice and feedback from colleagues before submitting the final application.

Successful grant awardees will be required to submit a report and details of the timeline will be provided in the award letter. There may be additional expectations of outcomes from the applicants as detailed in each grant type.

If you have additional questions or seek clarification, before applying, please contact grants@endocrinology.org

Specific Guidance

1. Research Grants

Scope

The Society offers small grants and grants-in-aid to support members with any aspect of research and audit costs (except salary and institutional overheads). A non-exclusive list of examples, would include consumables, equipment, service provision, data analysis, facility access, seed funding for pilot studies or to complete projects. These grants are particularly suitable for supporting unanticipated costs to complete the final stages of a PhD or Early Career Researcher (ECR) project or for enabling the collection of preliminary data to leverage funding from national funding bodies.

Pedagogical research in endocrinology is also allowed under the scope of the research grant section providing the research outcomes are clearly justified.

Support for visits to other institutions which are essential to the project will also be considered. For example, your project may require visits to labs and other institutions for research or clinical skills, to form collaborations or to learn techniques. In exceptional circumstances, the Society will consider funding for professional training courses where they are directly related to endocrinology. Applicants should not include requests for travel to present findings at meetings or otherwise disseminate the results of the study.

The Society also welcomes applications which assist members to re-establish their research after a career break or change of field.

Indicative values

The Society welcomes applications for up to £2,000 for minor research related costs, or up to £4,000 for more significant proposals. It is anticipated that the majority of awards for funding visits for research or training or to learn new skills and for professional courses will be under £2,000. In exceptional circumstances, grants above £4,000 may be considered, however, applicants are strongly encouraged to discuss their proposal with the Society prior to application.

In addition, the Society will be administering grants on behalf of the Clinical Endocrinology Journal Foundation (CEJF) and it is anticipated that funding will be available to support one grant of up to £25,000 each year. Specific details for the CEJF Research Grant are provided below.

2. Meeting Grants

Scope

These grants are to support members in the organisation of a wide range of endocrine events and meetings; small or large and with a clinical or scientific focus. Meetings may include conference formats or round table discussions and workshop meetings. When grants are awarded to run a conference or large meeting, the organisers will be expected to contribute to a themed edition for one of the Society journals, if appropriate.

Requests for repeat funding for the same annual event are unlikely to be successful, unless the circumstances are exceptional. However, the Society would welcome discussions to consider other collaborative options, including possible incorporation into the Society's Events and Training portfolio.

If you have additional questions or seek clarification, before applying, please contact grants@endocrinology.org

Indicative values

It is anticipated that the maximum award to assist with the organisation of a conference or large meeting would be £4,000, however, requests for smaller amounts are actively encouraged as these enable more initiatives to be supported.

3. Travel Grants

Scope

Travel grants-in-aid will be considered for attendance at Society for Endocrinology events. A limited number of grants will be available for attendance at overseas events, where the applicant can demonstrate added value by incorporating additional activities (such as a lab visit, departmental seminar, research visit etc.). To be considered for a grant for international travel, applicants are expected to have attended the Society's annual conference, SfE BES, at least once, in the past three years (e.g. to have attended either SfE BES 2021, 2022 or 2023).

Travel grants are highly competitive and applicants wishing to attend the Joint Irish-UK Endocrine Meeting 2024 or SfE BES 2025 conference or other scientific conferences will need to provide evidence of an accepted abstract before payment is made or the grant will be withdrawn. Grants are not awarded retrospectively, and so please do apply in advance to the appropriate grant deadline.

Indicative values

Grants-in-aid for up to £600 will be considered for Society for Endocrinology events and up to £750 for international endocrine related events.

5. Teaching Grants

Scope

Funding is available to support Society members with all aspects of teaching in endocrinology as well as initiatives to inspire the next generation. The scope for this grant is wide and the Society is particularly keen to receive applications for educational initiatives which can translate into a resource or model to be used by other members. A non-exclusive list of suggested uses for this grant include teaching resources, educational equipment, programme design [e.g. Virtual Learning Environment (VLE)], training in teaching tools (e.g. AI), student prizes, expenses to invite guest lecturers for undergraduate/postgraduate teaching programmes. This grant can also be used to support undergraduate Summer Studentships and for nurses to complete the SfE-Oxford Brookes Masters Module in Endocrine Nursing. If relevant, grant recipients will be asked to contribute to the teaching break-out session at SfE BES in the year following their award.

Indicative values

It is anticipated that the majority of awards would be for small grants of under £750.

SfE-Oxford Brookes Masters Module in Endocrine Nursing registration is currently £1000.

Summer Studentships applications will be considered up to £185/week for a maximum of 10 weeks student stipend. For these applications, the primary applicant should be a Society member and be either the home or host supervisor for a named Student Member of the Society.

Please note that pedagogical research in endocrinology is also allowed under the scope of the research grant section providing the research outcomes are clearly justified.

6. Outreach Grants

Scope

Funding is available for Society members and Society affiliated patient support groups for outreach activities aimed at the public or patients to help to engage more people with endocrinology and its impact. The scope for this grant is wide. For example, applications could be for funding to support public engagement activities and resource development; patient engagement and support activities; scoping Public and Patient Involvement (PPI) before a research study; for Endocrine Ambassadors to pay for speaker travel expenses for a member recruitment event.

Society members and Society affiliated patient support groups may submit joint applications, if desired.

Indicative values

It is anticipated that the maximum award would be for small grants of up to £750, however, requests for smaller amounts are actively encouraged as these enable more initiatives to be supported (e.g. speaker travel expenses which may be under £100).



Clinical Endocrinology Journal Foundation Research Grant

In addition to the above five grant portfolio, the Society will be administering research grants on behalf of the Clinical Endocrinology Journal Foundation (CEJF). Details are below. If you have additional questions or wish to seek clarification, before applying, please contact grants@endocrinology.org

Call for applications

There will be a call for applications once a year. The current deadline is **Wednesday 22 May 2024**. In the event that there are no applications which meet the threshold for funding, then the Society, in consultation with the CEJF, may re-open the call for applications later in the year. Applications will be marked and assessed by the Society's Grants Panel (with input from independent reviewers if required) who will make recommendations for the award to the CEJF for their final approval.

Eligibility

The CEJF Research Grant is open to Society for Endocrinology members who are UK-based only. Primary applicants should have been a Society member for at least one year prior to the grant deadline or for 6 months for an Early Career member. Applications could be from clinically orientated research staff at any grade.

Applications should include a letter of support from the sponsor institution (Academic or NHS) and this may involve the Research and Development (R&D) Department.

If needed for the project, proof of ethics committee approval will be required before a grant is finally awarded. Such approval can be pending at the time of application.

Scope

Applications should relate to an area of clinical endocrinology and should focus on a clinical quality improvement activity or clinical audit. Preferred applications would be multi-centred studies with a defined clinical outcome. If the application will form part of a larger study, the relationship should be explained and evidence that funding for the larger study is already in place should be provided.

It is expected that any work will be completed within 24 months of the award, unless an extension has been granted.

Funding requests may include salaries, equipment, assays or other consumables and travel costs where they are part of the research project. Funding is not available for travel to present findings at meetings or otherwise disseminate the results of the study. Departmental overheads are not available as the CEJF is a charity.

All successful awardees will be expected to submit a relevant clinical review to *Clinical Endocrinology*.

Indicative values

It is anticipated that funding will be available to support one grant of up to £25,000 each year.